

Appl. No. 09/642,749
Suppl. Response and Amendment dated July 14, 2004

REMARKS

The Amendments

Applicants request entry of the above claim amendments. Applicants have amended claim 11 to delete its dependence on cancelled claim 23, and to recite all of the limitations of claim 12. Because the amended claim recites specific sequences, the functional language of cancelled claim 11 is no longer required and applicants have deleted it. Applicants have also amended claim 11 to recite, as suggested by the Examiner, that the mutant is "isolated or purified". Finally, applicants have amended claim 13 to depend from amended claim 11, rather than cancelled claim 12. During a July 14, 2004 telephone conference, the Examiner indicated that these amendments would place pending claims 11 and 13 in proper form for allowance.

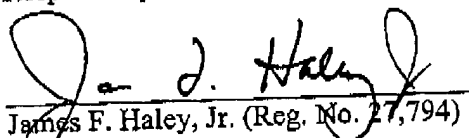
In the sole interest of moving this case toward allowance and without addressing the merits of the now pending rejections, applicants have canceled claims 10 and 23 without waiver of their rights to file divisional or continuing applications directed to the canceled subject matter. As such, the issues raised in the Advisory Action and discussed in the telephonic conversation are moot.

Conclusion

The application, as amended herein, is in condition for allowance, and early favorable action is solicited. To expedite prosecution, applicants invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned to discuss any matter that may be handled over the telephone.

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Respectfully submitted,



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